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Wall Mural at VA Air & Space Center

Summer S'COOL Adventures

by Roberto Sepulveda

NASA's Langley Research Center was once again assaulted this summer by a group of inquisitive educators looking for the experience of a lifetime. In true NASA form, Langley delivered! Twenty-one elementary teachers from across the United States and Puerto Rico joined the S'COOL team as ambassadors this past July. After six full days of fun, challenges and excitement, they emerged as gladiators ready to take on the world...OK, so I like to dramatize. The teachers had the opportunity to meet with many scientist, researchers and facilitators here at Langley. Whether they were being molded by craftsmen in the model shop, blown away by colossal wind tunnels, animated into a 3-D simulation of the atmosphere or



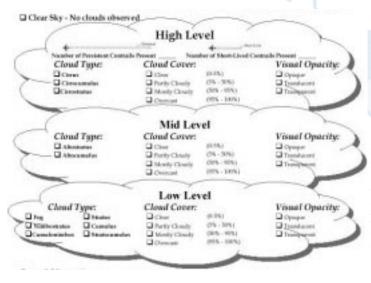
piloted into the skies behind the controls of a flight simulator the teachers emerged yet again to take on another adventure during their stay. It was a pleasure to have been part of this 4th annual summer S'COOL workshop and to have experienced the quality of teachers involved in NASA's S'COOL project. Our students are in capable hands! We invite you to relax for a moment and join us as we take a look back at some of the highlights at this year's workshop.

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A 'New Look' for Observation Forms



Many of you will be starting off the school year with many new faces and a 'new look' for your classrooms. The S'COOL Project decided to join you with a few changes of its own considering the growing popularity of our program. After several months of field tests the report form shown is now available for printing on-line. In addition to this field report form, we have also been busy updating our on-line report form to coincide with this new 'field' version. We will soon switch to this 'new on-line look' and students will be able to submit their data to NASA quickly and efficiently. The 'new look' was designed to increase user friendliness, decrease confusion and help eliminate reporting errors. We are confident that your students will enjoy the new method for recording observations.

But wait, there's more good news! The NASA database is also undergoing changes that will enable students to more effectively retrieve their data. 'How will this be useful in my classroom' you ask? Let us explain. Your students will be able to use the entire database to do research about other geographical areas and compare differing cloud patterns to their own. Furthermore, students will be able to select their data from such fields as country, state

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PAGE 2 S'COOL BREEZE

Summer S'COOL Adventures (continued from page 1)

Here are some very candid moments and remarks from this year's participants.

"Wonderful experience! It recharged my enthusiasm and I can't wait to get into it with my class."



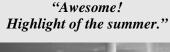
Don't expect to see any Oscar nominations for these 'Water Cycle' play performers. Reid Center NASA Langley Teachers come face to face with the splendor of one of Langley's gigantic wind tunnels. Langley Air Force Base Hampton, VA



"Thanks for bringing in all the scientists, engineers and experts to talk to us. I really enjoyed the presentations and I learned a great deal."



F-15 pilot warns teachers not to touch any of the red buttons marked 'FIRE' before letting them in for a closer look. Langley Air Force Base Hampton, VA





Teachers soon found out that model building can be more complicated than gluing together plastic pieces. Model Shop NASA Langley

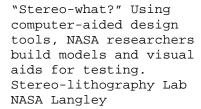


"I leave even more excited than I was when I came. I will be able to get my students excited when I go back to school."

In anticipation of the centennial celebration of the Wright brothers' flight, participants marvel at the history of aviation.

VA Air & Space Center,
Hampton, VA

"This has been an inspiring and excellent experience which will be useful as I implement standards in math, science, language arts, and technology in my class."





S'COOL Participants prepare for battle as storm clouds approach over the horizon. Naval Shipyard, Norfolk, VA



S'COOL participants
'dig-in' as NASA
education specialists
come out to share
their educational
materials.
Share-A-Thon
NASA Langley

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So what do the participants want to tell their students and fellow teachers when they return from summer vacation? Let's find out!

"I met teachers from all over the country and we will be communicating with teachers from Puerto Rico, Germany, Ukraine, and Iowa on cloud and weather observations. I was able to launch a weather balloon and see the recorded results in graphic form."

- Donna, WV



"I learned so many new
things at NASA and it was truly a once in a
lifetime opportunity. I thought NASA was
only about space exploration but I found out
that NASA encompasses every area of
science."

- Ann Marie, OH

"It truly has been like Christmas in July. It was a great workshop and I came home with so many great activities." — Jamie, AZ



"Before I learned about the S'COOL
Project my students and I would look up at
the clouds and try to identify animal
shapes. The S'COOL Project has given my
students, their parents and fellow teachers
the desire to be 'scientists' as they
observe."

— Sonia, PR

"It was so exciting to hear scientists report about their cutting edge climate research! I now know why my students' participation last year was so important. I can't wait to go back to school this fall. The S'COOL

Project is a "gold mine" for so many other learning objectives." - Fran, VA

"The workshop was a great way to get new ideas from other teachers that are also active weather watchers and are facilitating student participation in the S'COOL project." - Lorrie, WV



"I discovered that I really was telling the truth when I said that I didn't know very much about weather."

- Linda, NY

A 'New Look'... (continued from page 1)

or latitude / longitude ranges. Date ranges will also be available as a selection criterion, which will be useful for seasonal studies of clouds by geographic locations. In addition, students will have the opportunity to use these data to construct charts and graphs for visual analysis.

As you can probably guess, we are truly excited about the changes that are taking place around here. Imagine the technological advantage that your students will demonstrate as they become avid



S'COOL News

Sad Farewells & Happy
Congratulations! As many

of you already know, **Doug** will be joining many of you as a classroom teacher beginning this Fall in the Ukraine. Although he will be missed, we would like to extend a heartfelt wish for the utmost blessings as he embarks on this new path. In addition, **Joyce**, our administrative assistant, has also undergone a major change in her life. We would like to 'Congratulate' Joyce and Marc, the **Newlyweds**, on their blessed union.

Over 1250 participants are now registered thanks in part to an increase number of homeschool group registrations.





Don't forget! Daylight Saving
Time will soon be over! Remember to request
your satellite overpass schedule for the new times
beginning October 28th.

Change in your school information? Please remember to notify us of any changes in your school information, e-mail address or anything you feel is important for our database.

Teacher Resources:

Just a reminder to check out all the 'New S'COOL Products' available for printing like the **one page** 'Cloud Identification Chart' for kids and the **new printable observation report form**.

http://asd-www.larc.nasa.gov/SCOOL/materials.html

Thank you for your continued participation!

users of our database. Have you ever considered making connections with other schools around the world and possibly allowing your students to work together with electronic S'COOL pals? Here's your opportunity to bring those dreams to life. Other participants have made inquiries and will be using the S'COOL Project as a stepping-stone for collaborative efforts with schools around the globe. If we have managed to spark your interests write to us and tell us your plans for using the S'COOL Project with your students. Who knows? Your ideas may be the catalyst for yet another worldwide student opportunity. Let us know what's on your mind. We would love to support you with your visions! Write to us at: scool@larc.nasa.gov

NASA Langley Research Center CERES S'COOL Project Mail Stop 420 Hampton, VA 23681-2199



Upcoming Events

Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science Conference, Anaheim, CA September $26\,29$

Tidewater Association of Science Educators Conference, Chesapeake, VA, September 28

> New Jersey Science Convention Somerset, NJ, October 15 & 16

Florida Association of Science Teachers Sarasota, FL October 17-19

National Council of Space Grant Directors Meeting Dorado , P.R. October 27-29

http://asd-www.larc.nasa.gov/SCOOL/visits.

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A 'Homeschool' View of the Clouds!

"The openings in the lower levels allowed us today to observe the upper levels of clouds. It was really beautiful and we spent a lot of time today just looking at the sky from a blanket. The ability to see the different levels of cloud types was very unusual. We are learning a lot through this project and the children love it. They are getting good experience at reading the temperature, humidity and barometric pressure. This is a wonderful opportunity and I thank you for allowing us to participate."

Your Cloud Friends, Brookhaven Mill Academy